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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

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DEVIL POSTS WARDING EVIL SPIRITS FROM VILLAGES GIVE KOREA A PERPETUAL HALLOWEEN AIR

Many Koreans believe that everything in nature has a spirit, that spirits are everywhere, and that usually they are evil. The people live in constant superstitious fear of demons and often erect such fierce-looking symbols as these to propitiate them. One of these posts may represent the mountain spirit, as many villages, and some cities, claim a guardian mountain which supposedly protects them. Korean society contains two classes of sorcerers, or medicine men, who intercede with the spirits and interpret all spiritual doings for the uninitiated. With music and dancing, they expel the fire demon from the house, and the fever demon from the body, of their clients. Large sections of Korea's present-day population have outgrown these primitive beliefs (Bulletin No. 1).

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic School Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Originally entered as second-class matter January 27, 1922; re-entered as of April 27, 1943, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under Act of March 3, 1879. Copyright, 1945, by National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.

Occupation Helps Korea in Transition to Freedom

KOREA, called Chosen by the Japanese, today stands free of Nippon's yoke for the first time in 40 years. At present it is undergoing a transition period, with American forces occupying the south and Soviet troops billeted in the north. Promised independence by the Cairo Declaration of 1942, Korea waits expectantly to resume a long and distinguished national life.

The 38th parallel, the dividing line between the Soviet and United States occupation forces, also divides Korea agriculturally and industrially. The American zone is predominantly the food-producing area, while most of the country's industrial development has been in the north.

The Land Slopes from Mountainous East Coast to Populous West

Korea's jagged peninsula, shaped like a lobster claw, reaches south from Manchuria toward Kyushu, southernmost home island of Japan. Its area of 85,000 square miles makes it almost once-and-a-half the size of Florida. If moved to the east coast of the United States, the country would stretch from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to Charleston, South Carolina. A rugged mountain chain parallels the east, or Japan Sea, coast, culminating in a central group of magnificent Alplike granite peaks—the Diamond Mountains.

The land slopes gradually west and south, forming small plains on which most of the farming population is concentrated. Rivers are short and rapid, and only three are navigable for any distance. The east coast has only a few good harbors. Parts of the west coast are made treacherous by forty-foot tides.

Korea, chiefly an agricultural nation, lacks level land. Irrigated rice fields pattern the valleys, and the small plains are patched with fields of grain. Silkworm cultivation thrives in southern Korea, and fishing villages dot the long coastline. Temperatures range about six degrees cooler than comparative areas along the American east coast, and the two regions receive about the same amount of rainfall. But nearly all Korean rain falls in two summer months, often causing heavy crop damage.

Korean resources are largely undeveloped. Totally lacking in oil, the country has an estimated coal reserve of two billion tons. Like Switzerland, it can count on tremendous water-power development. Tunnels have been cut through the mountain range overlooking the east coast, diverting rivers east instead of west, so that the water cascades swiftly down steeper eastern slopes.

Often erroneously considered a small and unimportant country, Korea has some 25,000,000 inhabitants, a population figure topped by only six countries in continental Europe. Koreans are a Mongoloid people. Most of them are taller, more robust, lighter-skinned, and more even-featured than other Mongol peoples. Their language is their own. Through centuries of foreign pressure and association Korea has kept a distinctive culture and personality. Confucianism, most forms of art, and a written script have been borrowed from the Chinese.

Koreans Invented Movable Type and Ironclad Boats

No one religion dominates the peninsula. Buddhism and Confucianism were once strong. Most Koreans have no organized religion, but follow a vague spirit-worship (illustration, cover). Christian missions, which have done outstanding work there, claimed at one time half a million followers. Old Korea, strange in

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Edward Stevenson Murray

CLOUDS CREEP DOWN TO COVER THE ABOVE-TIMBERLINE COMMON PASTURES OF TURKEY'S EASTERN FRONTIER

The farmers and herdsmen of these highlands have evolved an economy of transhumance similar to that of Norway and central Europe. In the summer the mountaineer moves his flocks and herds to one of these rock-walled meadows for a three months' grazing period. While he lives in a cloud-cooled stone hut, his land in the valley below is tilled by other members of the family. Near here is Kars, historic mountain stronghold commanding the inland approaches to the Soviet Union's Transcaucasus region (Bulletin No. 3).

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Old British Honduras Boundary Agreement Again Questioned

NOW that the war is over, an old dispute about the ownership of British Honduras has been given another airing by Guatemala.

Harking back to an agreement made in 1859, which Guatemalans claim Great Britain did not live up to, the Central American republic has repeatedly brought up the question: is British Honduras British or Guatemalan? During the war years Guatemala voluntarily refrained from pressing its claim to the territory.

Was Only British Colony in Spanish Central America

The 1859 agreement, which was designed to regulate the situation between newly independent Guatemala and the British colony, fixed boundaries, granted additional territory to British Honduras, and provided for construction of a road connecting the Guatemalan capital with the Caribbean (eastern) coast. The misunderstanding between the two countries centers around the question of who was to build the road.

Guatemalans claim that the British Government agreed to build the highway, for which English engineers made a survey. The British failure to build the road, they say, invalidated the entire agreement. On the other side, it is said that Great Britain was merely to contribute about a half-million dollars toward Guatemala's construction costs.

Great Britain's historic claim to British Honduras, a crown colony about the size of Massachusetts, is based primarily on occupation and the right of conquest. At the time of the occupation, the territory, along with all Central America, belonged to Spain, but had never been settled because of its fever-breeding bogland.

The coast with its many rivers early afforded an excellent hideout for pirates who preyed on Spanish shipping in the Caribbean. A reef-protected coast enabled the buccaneers to elude capture. The coral reef, with its many wooded islets and narrow channels, extends 135 miles along the coast, from 5 to 25 miles offshore. Even today it is regarded as dangerous, except for local pilots.

The first recorded settlement was by shipwrecked British subjects—sailors or buccaneers—in 1638. One corsair chief named Wallace was a Scot. When there were no Spanish ships to prey upon, he put his men to cutting logwood, used in making dyes. At $500 a ton, it proved more profitable than piracy. The riches in logwood and mahogany drew to the colony many persons from the British island of Jamaica. In 1671, the governor of Jamaica reported to King Charles II that this settlement "increased His Majesty's customs and the natural commerce more than any of His Majesty's colonies."

United States Is Biggest Customer for the Colony's Products

Guatemalans continue to call the territory by its old Spanish name, Belize, now the name of the colonial capital (illustration, next page). It was first referred to officially as British Honduras in the 1670 treaty with Spain, which conceded to England the sovereignty over all territories then held by the latter in America or the West Indies. Nevertheless, Spain continued to harass the colony until its claims were silenced by the Battle of St. George's Cay in 1798. British right of conquest is based on this battle.

The colony had continued the exportation of timber, and before World War II was one of the largest sources of mahogany used in the United States. Imports

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Oriental ways, is fading before the advance of modern ideas. Town life and industry, speeded by war, are replacing simpler ways of life, but older people and the inhabitants in more remote places cling to old customs and quaint costumes.

Korea's origins are shrouded in the mists of legend. To Westerners it has always been a mysterious, out-of-the-way land of white-robed people wearing queer stovepipe hats (illustration, below). Recorded history, beginning in 57 B.C., tells of numerous petty kingdoms and successive dynasties, culminating in a golden age which held sway while European civilization was eclipsed by the Dark Ages. In 1392 Korea turned back the first Japanese westward thrust and became for the first time a united country. Two centuries of highly developed civilization followed, during which Koreans invented movable type, and devised an alphabet so simple that an average Korean child can learn to read in a month. Literature and the arts showed marked development.

Wars and invasions swept the peninsula periodically. Mongol and Manchu overlords ruled there. The Chinese in long periods of domination interfered little in Korean affairs. It remained for Japan to attempt absolute control. But for centuries Korea was a stumbling block to Japanese ambitions. In the late 1500's a great Korean admiral, using ironclad "tortoise boats" centuries before the famous *Monitor* revolutionized modern naval building, smashed a Jap invasion fleet and set back the island-people's expansion timetable 300 years.

In the 19th century a corrupt dynasty brought evil days to Korea. While Japan modernized feverishly, Korea played the hermit. By devious means Japan got control of the court, assumed a protectorate over Korea in 1905, and proceeded to outright annexation in 1910.

Note: Korea is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of Asia. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

See also, "Jap Rule in the Hermit Kingdom," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1945; and "Chosen—Land of Morning Calm," October, 1933; and, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, November 9, 1942, "Korea 'Exhibit A' in Jap 'Co-Prosperity' Program."

Bulletin No. 1, October 29, 1945.

Emma L. Kose

KOREAN STYLES REVEAL A PERSON IN MOURNING AND A MARRIED MAN

The tall hat, made of horsehair or bamboo fibers, is the badge of a Korean benedict. The other man's drooping headpiece and less snowy garments signify mourning. A Japanese (left), in Western dress, waits with the others for a prewar railroad breakdown to be righted.

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Disputed Kars Region Has Known Turkish, Russian Rule

CLAIMS of both Turkey and the Soviet Union to the Kars, Ardahan, and Artvin districts of Turkish Armenia add another border debate to the world's list of territorial questions awaiting consideration. The three districts were ceded to Turkey by Russia in 1921. Their highlands dominate inland approaches to the Soviet Union's oil-rich Transcaucasian areas.

The districts are situated in the northeast corner of Asiatic Turkey, at the southeastern end of the Black Sea. Lying against the frontiers of the Soviet Union's Transcaucasian republics of Georgia and Armenia, they are part of a historic region stretching on both sides of the present boundaries, as well as across a third border into Iran. This region is familiar to the Western world as part of Armenia, the land whose unhappy life story has made its very name a synonym for starvation and misery.

Treaties of Brest Litovsk and Kars Gave Lands Back to Turkey

During the past three-quarters of a century the districts in question were in turn Turkish, Russian, then Turkish again—with a short period of British occupation thrown in. In 1878 Kars and its neighboring districts of Ardahan and Batumi, the latter including modern Artvin, were ceded by the Turkish empire to tsarist Russia as a war prize.

Early in 1918, when the new Soviet government of Russia was seeking peace with the Central Powers, the Treaty of Brest Litovsk provided for the return to Turkey of the three areas. Then came the defeat of Germany and her allies, the annullment of the Brest Litovsk treaty, and a turbulent period in the history of the Near East nations during which the old Turkish empire was breaking up and the old portions of the tsarist empire were becoming Soviet republics.

Turkish troops, which had marched into the border area, gave way to temporary British occupation. The British controlled even Baku, the great oil city on the Caspian Sea, for a time. Conflict developed between forces of the new National Government of Turkey and Red Armies of the Soviets, but the Russians and the Turks eventually came to terms in the mutual interest of their regimes. The Treaty of Kars was signed in 1921, turning over to Turkey the contested districts, and leaving to Russia only the port of Batumi and its immediate territory.

On present-day maps of Turkey, Kars is the only district, or vilayet as the Turks call it, whose name remains. Reorganization of vilayets wiped out Ardahan and Artvin as provinces, leaving Ardahan's capital of the same name within Kars Vilayet, and the Artvin capital in the adjoining Çoruh Vilayet.

Area Has Been Called the Turkish Siberia

Kars Vilayet currently has an area of about 6,700 square miles, somewhat smaller than the State of New Jersey, and a population of more than 350,000. Its capital and chief city, Kars, has some 63,000 inhabitants. This city, 25 miles from the nearest point on the border of Soviet Armenia, is important as a station on Turkey's cross-country railway which extends through the heart of Kars Vilayet into the Transcaucasus regions of Russia.

This northeast section of Turkey is sometimes called the Turkish Siberia. It has short, hot summers and long, severe winters, during which temperatures in places go down to 40 degrees below zero. A high and dry plateau land, it has many peaks reaching above 10,000 feet. Southeast of the city of Kars, near the

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normally reached 10,000,000 board feet a year. The United States was the colony's largest market, normally receiving about 600,000 stems of bananas, over 1,500,000 pounds of chicle, and other products to a total of nearly $2,000,000 a year. The colony also sold several million coconuts annually.

United States steamers maintained regular service with British Honduras, bringing shipments of mahogany and other products to New Orleans, Baltimore, and New York; and returning with assortments of manufactured goods, including newspapers and magazines.

Before the war the population of British Honduras was estimated at less than 60,000. In addition to English and Scottish settlers, the population included German traders, Carib and other Indians, and Negroes from the West Indies. Spanish infiltrations from Yucatan and Guatemala were mostly mixed with Maya Indians, whose early settlements in this territory have attracted many archeological expeditions.

Note: British Honduras and Guatemala are shown on the Society's Map of Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies.

Bulletin No. 2, October 29, 1945.

Keystone

TO AMERICA'S GUM-CHEWERS, BELIZE SHIPS CHICLE

The raw material of chewing gum is a leading export of this British Honduras port. The only foreign-owned country in Central America also ships mahogany and logwood to the United States, its best customer. Belize, the colony's capital and main port, straddles the Belize River where it empties into the Caribbean Sea. Near-by coastal regions are a maze of blue lagoons and reef-protected channels—a beautiful tropical playground for yachtsmen.

A PLACE TO KEEP YOUR MAPS

For members, subscribers, and others who find it difficult to keep together their *Geographic* maps, the National Geographic Society offers a Map File 10¾ by 7¾ inches, bound like a book in gold-embossed maroon buckram, with ten map pockets of heavy gray manila paper, plainly numbered. A correspondingly numbered blank list, on which the maps may be recorded, is attached inside the front cover. The capacious file holds either 20 maps, or 10 maps with their indexes. Price of the Map File is $2.50 postpaid in U. S. and possessions; elsewhere $2.75 in U. S. funds.

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Hungary, Hitler Ally, Slated for United States Recognition

THE STATE Department, in taking steps to exchange diplomatic representatives with the new government of Hungary, is bringing back to international recognition one of Hitler's few voluntary partners. Hungary joined the Axis in 1940 in order to reacquire land lost as a result of World War I. The landlocked Danube country soon learned that the union profited Germany more than Hungary.

When Soviet armies entered Hungary in the fall of 1944, civil war broke out. The Germans occupied the Magyar land and defended it, helped by some Hungarian troops, through the long winter of 1944-45. Budapest, the capital, fell on February 13, 1945, after a Stalingrad siege of 50 days. By then most Magyars were thoroughly sick of the Germans, their promises, and their war.

Magyar Forebears Found Their Fertile Plain 1,000 Years Ago

Hungary between the wars consisted of a Magyar core of 36,000 square miles and 8,000,000 persons. Before World War I it had been three times as big in area, had an Adriatic seacoast and a navy, and, joined with Austria in the Austro-Hungarian Dual Monarchy, constituted one of Europe's foremost powers. Most of the lands taken from Hungary were peopled by non-Magyars. During World War II the nation temporarily regained some of its lost territory.

Hungary, about the size of Indiana, lies surrounded by the high mountains of central and southeast Europe, but it is almost entirely low, flat, fertile plain. The Magyars are strong, healthy, industrious people, descendants of the Finno-Ugric nomads who found this plain among the mountains while migrating westward from the Asiatic steppes a thousand years ago.

They settled with their herds, and, in A.D. 1001, formally accepted Christianity and a crown for their ruler, Stephen, from Pope Silvester. This crown of St. Stephen with its leaning cross is the symbol of Hungarian unity—a sacred emblem, constantly guarded. Many Hungarians still consider their country a monarchy, though it has had no king since World War I. Nicholas Horthy, nominal ruler of the country from 1920 to 1944, styled himself "regent."

Behind a harried political life lies the Magyar's flat, peaceful land of endless grainfields, still farmed primitively compared to the machine methods used on the similar plains of America's Middle West. The ridge of hills of the Bakony Forest, west of Budapest, divides the land into the little Alfold (lowland plain) northwest of Budapest, and the great Alfold to the southeast.

This Alfold is drained by the middle Danube, the sluggish Tisza, and their tributaries. The marshes between the two rivers and big Lake Balaton west of the Danube are remnants of an ancient age when the region was an inland sea.

In Wild-West Style, Cowboys Once Galloped over the Hungarian Plain

The plain is second only to the Ukraine's black earth as a European granary. Summers are hot; winters are very cold. Rain falls plentifully on the growing crops of early summer and ceases before harvesttime.

Preceding 1918 much of the land belonged to large estates of the church and the nobility, and few farmers could own the soil on which they worked. Since then many estates have been broken up into small farms worked by their owners.

Before big grain crops were needed to feed Europe's increasing population, the Magyar plainsmen raised horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs rather than grain. They were cowboys and expert horsemen who wore broad hats and high boots in

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Iranian border, is Mount Ararat—sacred mountain of Armenia and traditional resting place of Noah's Ark. It rises almost 17,000 feet.

The nomadic people of Kars and surrounding regions make their living chiefly by raising sheep, goats, and cattle (illustration, inside cover), and growing grain and other highland crops. There is considerable potential wealth in minerals, including coal, copper, lead, and silver, but there has been little mining.

Kars and Ardahan (the towns) lie on small mountain rivers that flow into the U.S.S.R., across Transcaucasia, and into the Caspian Sea. The town of Artvin is on the Çoruh River, which also crosses the border to flow into the Black Sea near Batumi. Nationalities and loyalties in these strategic highlands are badly mixed. The owner of the largest store in Artvin (illustration, below), though a compatriot of Stalin (a Georgian) by blood, regards himself as a Turk by religious upbringing and heritage.

Note: The region of the Turkey-Armenia border may be located on the Society's Map of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a supplement to the December, 1944, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

For additional information, see "On the Turks' Russian Frontier," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1941; and "The Transformation of Turkey," January, 1939*. (*Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00*)

Bulletin No. 3, October 29, 1945.

Edward Stevenson Murray

ARTVIN'S GENERAL STORE LACKS A CRACKER BARREL, BUT RIVALS ITS RURAL AMERICAN COUNTERPART IN VARIETY OF MERCHANDISE

Nearly anything a Turk, Georgian, Laz, or Armenian wants can be found within this shopping mart of extreme northeast Turkey where nationalities are so mixed that the surrounding territory has often changed hands. Customers are served coffee or tea, and they sit down with the owner to exchange Oriental proprieties before proceeding with business. If polite haggling over a price takes a long time, more drinks are prepared. In Artvin's outdoor market place (foreground), all business is completed by 8 a.m. These stragglers are gossiping a bit before returning home with their purchases.

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Geo-Graphic Brevities

NEW PROCESSES PLACE RAMIE ALONG WITH COTTON, SILK, AND LINEN

ANCIENT cloth-wrapped mummies in various world museums are better dressed, from the standpoint of quality, than many of today's living citizens. After 4,000 years the cloth in which they are wound is still intact. Made from ramie, the oldest natural fiber known to man, the material was called "grass cloth" by the ancient Egyptians. Although desirable as a fabric, it was not made in quantity because it was so hard to get the fiber from the stalk.

Rated as eight times stronger than cotton and six times stronger than silk, ramie looms on the textile horizon as a possible rival to the supremacy of King Cotton. The plant, a stingless nettle (*Boehmeria nivea*), is indigenous to China, and grows in Japan, Australia, the Philippines, and Brazil. In the United States ramie is raised chiefly in the Everglades section of Florida. Extremely easy to cultivate in warm climates, it can be cut as often as four times a year. It grows from three to nine feet long. The roots continue to grow, without much cultivation, for 10 years.

Ramie is one of the longest vegetable fibers known. It is unaffected by mildew, neither shrinks nor stretches, and is lustrous and white without bleaching. Fabric made from it is easily washed. When used to increase the bulk or weight of other textiles or of plastics, ramie imparts qualities more desirable than those of most fillers now employed. Chemically, ramie and cotton are identical; physically these cellulose fibers have very different properties. Ramie is twice as resistant to heat as is cotton; grease and oil do not affect it; and it dyes more readily than cotton.

Until recently, ramie has baffled attempts to remove the fiber from the stalk. In China, where it has been known for thousands of years, and used chiefly in luxury goods, the fiber was removed from the stalk by hand. Thus large-scale production was impossible. Machines injured the fiber or did not completely remove foreign substances. This caused the material to be very brittle. Ramie first appeared on the European market in 1810, but little was done toward manufacturing the cloth in large quantities. In 1855, a process developed in France produced a "pure fiber in fine working condition."

World War II had a lightning effect on progress in the textile industry. With warfare demanding fabrics of unusual strength, ramie came into the limelight. It is being cultivated in Florida wastelands, and a satisfactory machine has at last been developed to separate the fiber. In 1934 Joseph Manahan, a Boston manufacturer, developed the Manawul Process of removing the brittle quality from ramie. This made possible the use of standard textile machinery. Textile mills in Chungking, China, produce ramie by a process developed by Ruth Y. H. Feng, first girl chemical engineer to graduate from Ohio State University.

Ramie woven to resemble fine silk is now used in airplane and parachute cloth, tents, typewriter ribbons, currency paper, surgical dressings, upholstery fabrics, and clothing.

* * * * *

MT. WASHINGTON'S WEATHER TESTS ARMY NURSE APPAREL

MOUNT WASHINGTON, in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, has recently become an experimental ground for winter wearing apparel for Army nurses. Highest peak in New England—6,288 feet above sea level—it has long been

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American wild-West style; but they also dressed in black jackets and flying capes unknown in the United States. Now only one-fifth of the area is grazing land; three-fifths is used for crops. The remainder is forests, vineyards, and towns.

The Magyar plainsmen live in villages of neat, low, white-walled cottages. They love music, color, and adornment. In the winter the women make gaily embroidered garments for both sexes, while the men make furniture and carvings and stencils to use in decorating interiors and exteriors of their farm buildings.

Budapest, situated on the Danube where hills narrow the river's width and simplify bridging, is Hungary's only large city. Spread on the hills of the river's west bank is the old city of Buda, dominated by the royal palace and fortress and other buildings of national administration. Across the river on the flat east bank is Pest. It had miles of wharves and industries that river trade had helped to develop, and was connected with Buda by six bridges.

Center of rail and highway routes from all parts of the kingdom, Budapest had more than 1,500,000 residents before the war. It flour mills made Pest the "Minneapolis of Europe." Cloth manufacture from imported cotton was important. Shipyards and chemical and firearms factories supplied the Nazi war machine.

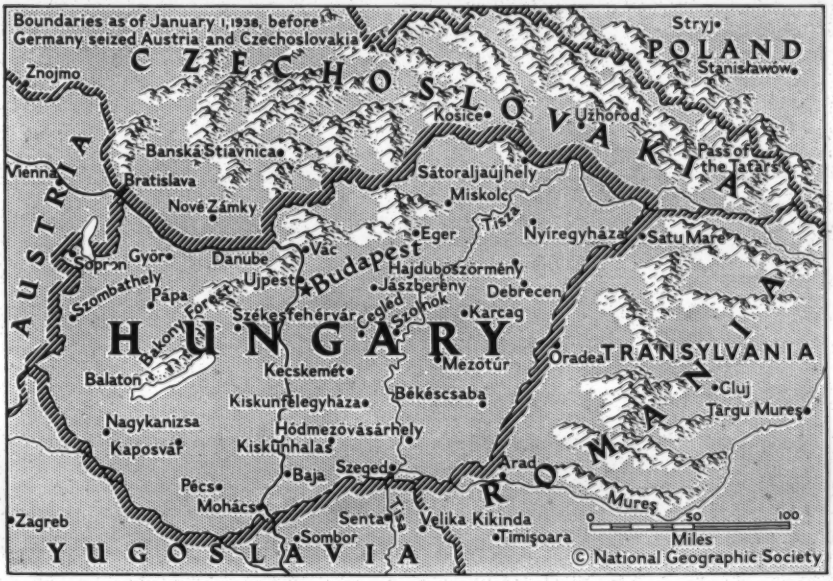
Hungary's smaller cities are mostly far-spreading groups of villages. Szeged, second in size with 145,000 people, on the Tisza 10 miles from the joint frontier with Romania and Yugoslavia, manufactured flour, sugar, and leather goods. Debrecen, city of stockyards and meat-packing plants near the east border, counts 128,000 people but covers more area than some cities of 2,000,000.

Pécs, in Hungary's southernmost bulge, has become a manufacturing city by virtue of the coal mines near by. On the Danube 20 miles east is Mohács, where Ottoman armies in 1526 annihilated Hungary's defenders to begin a period of Turkish domination that lasted until 1697.

Note: Hungary is shown on the Society's Map of Europe and the Near East.

See also, "Magyar Mirth and Melancholy," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for January, 1938*; and "Hungary, a Kingdom Without a King," and "Budapest, Twin City of the Danube," June, 1932*; and in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, "Budapest, Hungary's Twin Metropolis, Was Nazi Arsenal," November 27, 1944; and "Hungary Has Valuable Resources. Violent History," November 6, 1944.

Bulletin No. 4, October 29, 1945.



famous for its weather extremes. Since the 1870's when the peak was named for George Washington, its weather has been a challenge to scientists. It was not until November, 1870, that the first scientific party reached the summit to spend the winter.

The reports of the scientists surprised even the natives of the area who thought they knew the mountain's habits. Government weather officials were so interested that they took over the station the following year.

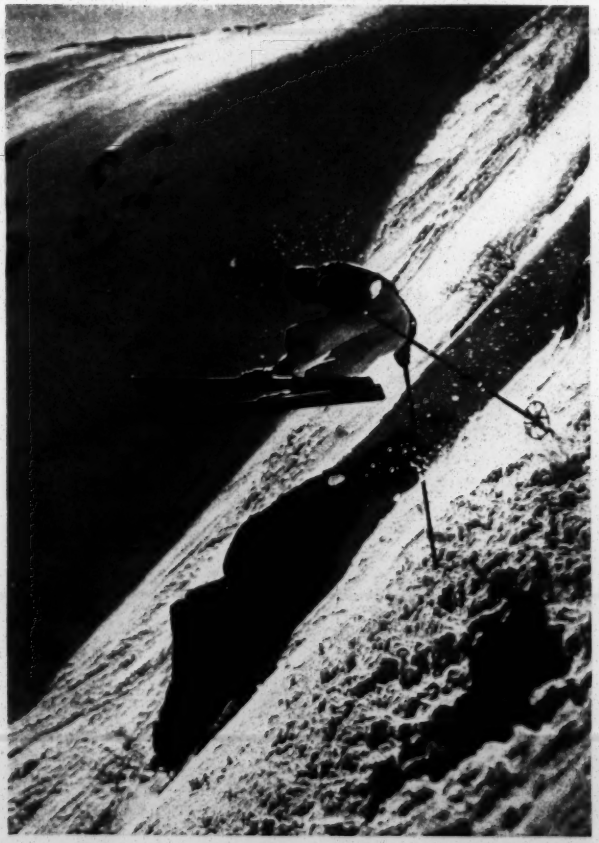
Records compiled from 1870 to 1887 were the first officially kept on any mountaintop in America. One winter the thermometer dipped to nearly 60 degrees below zero. The scientists' quarters were so cold that, even with two fires burning, water froze in buckets only a few feet away. Butter had to be cut with a hammer and chisel, salt pork sawed as one would saw a wooden slab.

The government gave up the weather station in 1892. In 1932 the New Hampshire Academy of Sciences, the Blue Hill Observatory of Harvard University, and private contributors sponsored the reestablishment of the station. Now the U. S. Weather Bureau and the State of New Hampshire are cooperating to furnish the weather data used extensively in aviation in the northeast.

The wind velocity record of 140 miles an hour was smashed in April, 1934 by a 200-mile gale—one of the greatest velocities ever recorded anywhere.

Life on Mt. Washington has changed with modern improvements. The weather station is equipped with heat and electric lights. Telephones link it with the villages in the valley. A hotel built to withstand the high winds also rises on the summit.

Even in winter, the once isolated peak now has scores of visitors who come for winter sports (illustration, left). In summer it is a popular vacation spot, reached by cog railway, road, or trail.



Winston H. Pote

SKIERS SLIDE INTO SPRING DOWN MT. WASHINGTON

A slide, a leap, and a whirlwind turn speed him down Tuckerman Ravine—mile-long, 1,000-foot-deep glacial gouge where the mountain's "unusual" weather prolongs winter sports into May or June. Olympic tryouts have been held here.

Note: Mt. Washington is shown on the Society's Map of the Northeastern United States, which appeared as a supplement to the *National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1945.

See also, "New England Ski Trails," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1936*; and "New Hampshire, the Granite State," September, 1931*.

Bulletin No. 5, October 29, 1945.

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